



Washington  
Department of  
**FISH and  
WILDLIFE**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**  
**Project Wildlife Research Scientist 1**  
**\$4322.00 – \$5668.00 Range: 60**

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**Recruitment # 1368-10 Opens: September 23, 2010 Closes: October 23, 2010**

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### **Job Summary**

This is a fulltime Project position, with funding expected to last from two to five years, depending on the success of the project. The primary duty station is in Ephrata, Washington. Reporting to the Endangered Species Section Manager, this position is directly responsible for designing, coordinating and implementing the reintroduction, translocation, and monitoring of endangered pygmy rabbits into eastern Washington habitat. The pygmy rabbit is a critically endangered species that no longer exists in this state in wild populations. This effort will reintroduce captive-bred rabbits and capture rabbits in other states for relocation to Washington. Methods will have to be developed and adaptive management used to adjust techniques as necessary. Monitoring will be an essential component to determine if the methods are successful in establishing wild populations of pygmy rabbits in Washington. **Key duties include:**

Developing methodology and carrying out activities to reintroduce pygmy rabbits to the Columbia Basin; determining appropriate handling techniques, dietary issues, release methods; working with the pygmy rabbit science team and others to develop the approaches to be used; developing and implementing a monitoring strategy; interpreting and applying research and study findings; writing reports and publishing research to communicate findings and status of species. Results will be evaluated annually to determine survivorship, genetic monitoring, reproduction, and improvements needed to increase survival. This employee will also write grants to USFWS and others to obtain funding to conduct the work needed to recover the rabbit, manage budgets and write contracts with captive breeding facilities.

### **Working Conditions**

Approximately 85% of the work takes place in field conditions, including outdoors with considerable amounts of time walking under high heat and sun exposure.

**This position is covered by a collective bargaining agreement between the State of Washington, Department of Fish & Wildlife, and the Washington Association of Fish and Wildlife Professionals (WAFWP). As a condition of employment you must either join the union and pay union dues, or pay the union a representational or other fee within 30 days of the date you are put into pay status.**

## **Qualifications**

This position requires an advanced degree (master's of science or higher) with a specialty in biology, wildlife biology, zoology, wildlife science, wildlife conservation or ecology. You must also have at least one year of relevant experience that includes substantial work designing and implementing wildlife field research studies, wildlife translocations, wildlife reintroductions, or population management.

**Competencies** -- The best qualified applicants will have education, practical training, and experience that demonstrate knowledge, skills, and abilities in the following areas:

- Working knowledge of endangered species conservation strategies - specifically translocation of small mammals
- Advanced knowledge of the principles of conservation biology for wildlife species and knowledge of methods to assess reintroduction results
- Advanced knowledge of small mammal habitat behaviors, characteristics and needs
- Working knowledge of radio-telemetry monitoring and associated field technology
- Ability to develop and execute cooperative projects with stakeholders and landowners
- Successful project management, including development and management of objectives, timelines and action plans

## **How to Apply**

Submit the completed state application along with a letter of interest and a resume that specifically addresses how you meet each one of the key competencies. Send these materials to [wdfwjobs@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:wdfwjobs@dfw.wa.gov). **Applications will be reviewed and interviews held as qualified applicants are identified, and the position may be filled prior to the above closing date.**

If you have questions about this recruitment, you may also contact Margaret Gordon, Recruitment Specialist at 360-902-2209.

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The Department of Fish and Wildlife is an equal opportunity employer. We strive to create a working environment that includes and respects cultural, racial, and ethnic, sexual orientation and gender identity diversity. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, persons over 40 years of age, disabled and Vietnam era veterans and people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, are encouraged to apply. Persons needing accommodation in the application process or this announcement in an alternative format may call (360) 902-2276 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (360) 902-2207.